EXCISE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BEIJING IMMEDIATE 6424
C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 177387
FOR ASSIST SEC HOLBROOKE
FOLLOWING REPEAT SEOUL 8592 ACTION SECSTATE INFO TOKYO SA CINCUNC
CEJUSMAG SEOUL CCUS CHRA SEOUL KS/EJ-IS
REF: C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 08590
E.O. 12065: GDS 07/05/26 (GLEYSTEEN, W.H.) OR-M
TAGS: PINT SHUM KS JA
SUBJECT: GOVERNMENT CONTINUES HARD LINE AGAINST POLITICAL OPPOSITION AND "PURIFICATION" TARGETS
REF: (A) SEOUL 8207, (B) SEOUL 8592
1. (C - ENTIRE TEXT)
2. THE GOVERNMENT HAS MADE OR IS RUMORED TO BE ON THE POINT OF MAKING A NUMBER OF MOVES IN LINE WITH ITS PURIFICATION DRIVE.
FIRST, THE MARTIAL LAW COMMAND (MLC) ISSUED A 47-PAGE REPORT JULY 4 DETAILING CHARGES AGAINST EX-PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE KIM DAE JUNG (M-R: KIM TAE-CHUNG, AND 36 OF HIS ALLEGED HENCHMEN. ALLEGEDLY, KIM PLANNED TO SEIZE POWER
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FOLLOWING THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT PARK BY TAKING CONTROL OF THE NDP AND USING VARIOUS PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS TO OVERTHROW THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT AND ESTABLISH HIMSELF AS HEAD OF AN INTERIM GOVERNMENT. THE REPORT SAYS KIM IS A CONFIRMED COMMUNIST WHO HAS BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH COMMUNIST ORGANIZATIONS SINCE 1945. SPECIFICALLY LINKS KIM TO THE NORTH KOREANS, AND CHARGES HE HAS PRINCIPAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR KWANGJU DISTURBANCES. KIM AND THE OTHERS WILL BE TRIED BY GENERAL COURT MARTIAL. (SUMMARY OF MLC REPORT FOLLOWS SEPTEL.)
3. THE GOVERNMENT'S PURIFICATION DRIVE IS ALSO AIMED TO

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY H/Temple DATE 8/8/82
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

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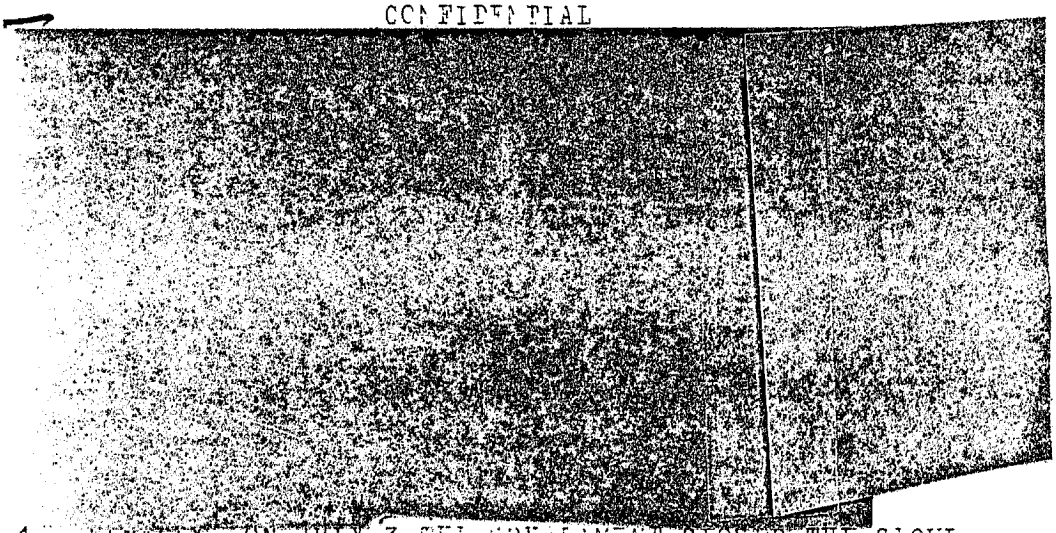

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4. FINALLY, ON JULY 3 THE GOVERNMENT CLOSED THE SEOUL OFFICES OF THE ASAHI SHIMBUN AND JIJI PRESS AND ISSUED A "STRONG WARNING" TO THE SANKEI SHIMBUN'S SEOUL REPRESENTATIVE.

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5. THE EXPULSION OF THE JAPANESE PRESS COMES ALONG WITH EARLIER EXPULSION OF THE SEOUL AYCIO CORRESPONDENT, THE "VOLUNTARY" SUSPENSION OF THE "MONTHLY JOONGANG" (REF B), AND MENTION OF MEDIA PEOPLE IN THE MIC'S REPORT ON KIM DAE JUNG.

6. COMMENT: IT IS STILL UNCLEAR HOW FAR THE PURIFICATION DRIVE AND MOVES AGAINST THOSE DEEMED ENEMIES BY THE GOVERNMENT AND MIC WILL GO.

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